

# THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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## WASHINGTON LETTER.

Our Regular Correspondent Writes From the National Capitol.

The committee of interstate commerce will, it is announced, hold its sessions in Washington, beginning about the middle of April, to consider the subject of railway rate legislation, which was dismissed without action at the close of the regular session. Several members of this committee are among those who will sail in July with Secretary Taft's party for an investigation of conditions in the Philippines, so that it is not likely that they will consume many weeks in the discussion of railroad rates.

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The triennial convention of the Mother's Congress held in Washington has come to a close and by Sunday all of these national mothers will have returned to their homes again and become for the most part just plain, ordinary mothers again. A number of them have decided to remain over in Washington until in April, when the Daughters of the American Revolution will hold their annual congress, for many of the Mothers are also Daughters and the capital will thus not be deprived entirely of the spiritual influence and protection of these women organized as societies for the prevention and promotion of everything.

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The sessions of the Mothers' Congress here have been most successful. A number of speakers of national reputation have addressed them, the feature, of course, of the congress being the address of President Roosevelt, which has been quoted broadcast in this country and Europe. The French and German ambassadors and the Japanese minister addressed the convention and gave descriptions of the conditions affecting children in their countries.

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Secretary of State Hay, who has been ill a great part of the winter with a bronchial trouble, has decided, on the advice of his physician, to take a long sea voyage this spring. He left Washington the last of the week, and in order that he might be spared interviews and excitements the date of his sailing and the boat were not announced. Mr. Loomis, the first assistant secretary of state, who is also away for the benefit of his health, will not return to Washington until April 3d. After the president leaves on his trip through the southwest, any business of the state department outside of the routine work will be referred to Secretary Taft, and as Mr. Hay will return before Secretary Taft leaves on his Philippine trip, the department will not be left without a head. Mr. Loomis, it is said, is the author of the original Santo Domingo treaty which has proved such an embarrassment to the administration, and the leaving of Secretary Taft in charge of the state department is probably done with a view to avoiding any awkward situations in our relations with other governments in which inexperience in the conduct of the state department might involve us.

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The date of the president's departure for the southwest and his hunting trip has not yet been announced, but now that congress is off his hands it is probable that he will make it as early as possible. Nobody who knows the president will doubt that he is eager for the change from weddings, dinners and cabinet meetings, from paved streets and flags and the tipping of many hats, from a dress coat and a set smile for the idyllic woods

and the society of the cowboy, where a "biled" shirt and a razor have never penetrated. There with a mustang and his gun he can woo forgetfulness of that balky steed, congress, which has tried his patience for three and a half long months.

## OVER THE COUNTRY.

The average tax collection made in Linn county this year was 97 per cent.

A class of six will graduate in the Linneus public schools, which close in two weeks.

Dr. J. W. Mason, of Brookfield, was married last week to Miss Belle Ware, of near Linneus.

Lafe Bennett and Miss Mary Neet, two Browning young people, were united in marriage on Wednesday of last week.

The annual banquet to be given by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen at Brookfield on April 18 promises to be a swell affair.

Jas. B. Fleming, county treasurer-elect, has rented a residence in Linneus preparatory to moving to the county seat and taking charge of his office.

Old line insurance companies have raised rates so high in Brookfield that an effort is being made to organize a mutual company to furnish protection.

The Brookfield Gazette, always a good paper, is now better than ever. The Martins are a team that would be hard to beat in the newspaper business.

Commencement exercises of the Marceline high school will be held March 31. Hon. T. L. Rubey, of Macon, will deliver the annual address.

Dr. J. C. Scott, of St. Catherine, died in the city. He was 60 years old and had practiced medicine for many years at St. Catherine.

John W. O'Neill, at one time a dispatcher in the Burlington offices at Brookfield, died of dropsy last week at his home in St. Louis. The remains were brought to Brookfield for burial.

The Browning Leader-Record showed its enterprise last week by printing the cut of Laclede's new church, together with that of Mrs. Foreman's Sunday school class and a splendid write-up of the dedication services.

S. J. Merchant was in town yesterday on business and looking after his candidacy for the the republican nomination for clerk and assessor. Mr. Merchant has made a splendid record in that office and has many friends who believe he should be given a second term.

Republicans of Jefferson township should remember the nominating convention to be held this afternoon, and attend. There are two and three candidates for some of the places to be filled, and for others there seems to be none. As all who have announced are good men, the contest promises to be lively.

According to the assessment for 1904, there are in this township 24,759 acres of land, assessed at \$487,147, an average of \$14.02 per acre. From the same source we learn that there are 1,077 horses, valued at \$24,335; 102 mules valued at \$3,285; 4,225 cattle, valued at \$36,800; 834 sheep, valued at \$851; 1993 hogs, valued at \$4,026; money, notes and bonds, \$44,030; all other personal property, \$20,427; the grand total for the township being \$678,007.

A surprise party was given Miss Ola Brunemer at the home of her parents by a number of her young friends from town and country on last Thursday evening. All had a delightful time and were well entertained.

## TOWN AND COUNTRY.

Local Events of The Past, Present and Future That Will Interest You.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Carmichael enjoyed a pleasant visit the first of the week from their nephew, John D. Carmichael, and wife, of Alliance, Neb., who were on their way home from spending the winter at Hot Springs, Ark., for the benefit of Mr. Carmichael's health.

Regular services at Presbyterian church next Sunday. Rev. Comer, the pastor, will preach in the morning at 11 o'clock. Subject: "Caesar's Saints." In the evening at 7:30, Rev. W. C. Atwood, of Brookfield, will occupy the pulpit. All are cordially invited to attend these services.

On the eighth page of THE BLADE today J. H. Brown has an announcement of the fourth grand wall-paper opening to be held at the Owl Pharmacy on Saturday, April 8th. Mr. Brown has an especially fine line this spring and the opening will be more elaborate than ever before.

Ira Frakes has been hustling around this week letting the republicans know that he desires to again make the race for township clerk and assessor. Ira is well known to every voter in the township. Having filled the office one term to the satisfaction of all, his friends believe he should be given another term.

Lee E. Hamilton, candidate for the republican nomination for collector, has been out among the republicans the past week and has received much encouragement. All recognize the fact that he has filled the office with commendable ability and see no reason why he should not be given

perous farmer on Route 1, called Wednesday and left a dollar for THE BLADE and Weekly Kansas City Star a year. Mr. Sharp is just recovering from a siege of la grippe and pneumonia, and his many friends hope he may continue to improve, and reach his former good health.

It seems that the party who reported the church social held at Mr. and Mrs. Bothel's last week gave it the wrong name. The church people object to the term "ragtime," saying it was a "tacky" or "hard-times" social, although many there were dressed in rags. THE BLADE knew nothing as to the nature of the social, but printed the item as it was reported at this office.

A county convention of the Modern Woodmen of America will be held at Woodmen hall in Laclede on Wednesday, April 5, to convene at 11 a. m. At this meeting two delegates are to be elected to the state convention which meets at Marshall on May 3 to elect state delegates to the national camp at Milwaukee in June. In the county camp there will be forty-two delegates.

Another candidate for the republican nomination for township collector has appeared in the person of J. E. Welsh. Mr. Welsh's republicanism and qualifications to fill the office is known to every voter in the township, and while he enters the contest rather late he has many friends who are vigorously pushing his candidacy. If nominated he will be elected by a big majority and make a good collector.

The Burlington's homeseekers' excursion last Tuesday took a big crowd to the southwest. The K. C. brought in an extra large crowd from the north and the Hannibal was compelled to put on several extra coaches. Pickpockets got into the jam at the Kansas City union depot and several of the homeseekers were robbed. A

man by the name of McKay, from Humphreys, who passed through Laclede, lost his pocketbook and \$65, and several others lost small amounts.

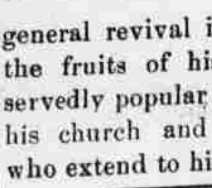
D. R. Graves has decided to locate at West Plains, Howell County. He will load his household goods and other personal effects into a car Monday, and, with his wife and daughter, leave for their new home next week. In their departure, Laclede loses an excellent family, and, while their many friends here regret to have them go, they take pleasure in giving them a high recommendation to the good people of West Plains, and wishing for them the best there is down in the famous strawberry country.

At the annual school election to be held on April 4, a county school commissioner is to be elected. Prof. L. E. Ryals, principal of the Browning schools, is a candidate for re-election. Prof. Ryals is a graduate of the Kirksville Normal and has a life state certificate. He has a splendid reputation as an educator. He has served as commissioner 18 months, having been appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Baker. He has given general satisfaction, and having only gotten nicely started in the work, should be given another term. We advise our people to vote for L. E. Ryals.

## Rev. Robison Returned.

It is certainly pleasing to Laclede to know that Rev. E. L. Robison and his estimable family are to remain here another year.

As pastor of the M. E. church Rev. Robison has been an untiring worker and a handsome member of the



general revival in church affairs are the fruits of his efforts. He is deservedly popular with the members of his church and the general public who extend to him a cordial welcome.

## Public School Closed.

The Laclede public schools completed yesterday one of the most successful terms in their history. Prof. Sipple and his assistants have done well and given universal satisfaction. No complaints of any kind have been heard, but many words of praise are given both pupils and teachers. The attendance has been large throughout the term, there being quite a number of non-resident pupils enrolled.

There is no graduating class this year, but closing exercises, to be taken part in by pupils from each room, will be held at the opera house this evening:

## PROGRAM.

Chorus..... Greeting Glee  
Recitation..... Amy Stufflebeam  
Recitation..... Robert Sweet  
Instrumental Solo  
Doll Drill by 14 Little Girls  
Masquerade Doll Drill by 15 Boys  
Recitation..... Zola Groes  
Trilo..... Agnes Thompson, Alice Hawes and Bessie Robison.  
Reading..... Roxie Rankin  
Recitation..... Byron Eccles  
Instrumental Solo..... Leola Barton  
Reading..... Lottie Aber  
Vocal Solo..... Harold Standly  
Recitation..... Dorothy Smith  
Vocal Duet..... Etta Dye and Mav Dye  
Reading..... James Aber  
Instrumental Duet..... Julia Harter and Katie Harter.  
Pantomime..... Jesus Lover of My Soul by Seven Girls.

Vocal Solo..... Katharine Brown  
Reading..... Pearl Adams  
Reading..... Josie Shane  
Reading..... Orval Sweet  
Vocal Solo..... Edna Wilson  
Red, White and Blue Drill..... Nine Girls  
Reading..... Laura Sweet  
Chorus..... Far Away

The doors will open at 7:15, and the program will begin at 8. All pupils of the school will be admitted free. Admission to others, 15 cents.

Wilson's Cash Route store has the largest stock of bulk garden seeds in Linn county. See large seed catalog.

## THE PRESIDENT'S FEDERAL POLICY.

No Changes to be Made Where Officials are Rendering Satisfactory Service.

From Brookfield Argus.

According to a dispatch sent out from Washington last week, a general policy as to federal appointments has been determined upon by the president and his cabinet. The uniform policy will be to retain incumbents in office during satisfactory service. This policy will hold, it was stated further, irrespective of the length of service of the incumbent. The policy is to apply generally to all departments of the government. This comes as glad tidings to a large number of Missouri postmasters, including Brothers Jones, of Brookfield; Caywood, of Laclede; Ormiston, of Linneus; each of whom it must be admitted are giving splendid satisfaction to the patrons of their respective offices. While Brookfield has had several mighty good and worthy postmasters in the past, both republicans and democrats, never in the past has the interior of the Brookfield office been kept quite as neat and in as apple pie order as it is kept by Postmaster Jones and his assistants. While The Argus does not agree with Mr. Jones in his political convictions, we agree with the public; regardless of political affiliation, that he is a most painstaking servant of your Uncle Sam, and the patrons of the office are to be congratulated on having, as in the past, a man equal to all demands, notwithstanding the duties of the office have largely increased in the past year.

Postmasters' Advocate, Washington, D. C. The offices of first and fourth assistant postmaster general are vacant and will be filled by the president upon the recommendation of Mr. Cortelyou. It is believed that Third Assistant Postmaster General Madden will not be reappointed, but it is probable that Second Assistant Postmaster General Shallenberger will succeed himself. The postmaster general and each of the assistant postmasters general is allowed to appoint a private secretary, and these are about all the changes that are likely to be made.

In the postal service also there will be no change in the present policy, and the great army of postmasters of fourth-class offices will be permitted to remain so long as they conduct their offices satisfactorily.

## Some Features of The Blade Today.

On the inside pages of THE BLADE today we begin a continued story entitled "Little France," a romance of the days when the great Lord Hawk was king of the sea, by Cyrus Townsend Brady. This is a splendid story and you should not miss the first installment. It will run fourteen weeks. There are other important features, among which is an account of the breaking of the deadlock at Jefferson City and the election of a republican United States senator, together with a full history of Major Warner, the new senator. We also print a list of all bills passed by the late general assembly, and much current news matter. No part of THE BLADE should be missed.

## New Millinery.

I have been in the wholesale houses this week getting the styles for 1905 and selecting new spring goods. I will have the finest display of fine hats ever shown in Laclede, fresh and new, right from the market. Will open Saturday, March 25. Call and see; you are welcome.

Mrs. S. M. Brown.